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Our Ref.: 2551-106

Your Ref.: Appln No. 09/851,138

Date: May 17, 2005

To: Examiner Li

Firm: USPTO - Group 1648

Facsimile No.: Facsimile No.: 7038729306

(Courtesy Copy to Examiner's Fax No.: 5712730904)

From: B. J. Sadoff

Number of Pages (including cover sheet): 10

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EXPEDITED HANDLING PROCEDURES**

ATTACHMENT/S: Information Disclosure Statement, copy of cited document, Credit Card Payment Form (separate Courtesy Copy forwarded to Examiner by facsimile to 5712730904).

An extension fee for consideration and entry of this IDS should not be required as the applicants responded to the final Office Action of January 11, 2005 within two months of the mailing date (i.e., on February 9, 2005) of the final Office Action and an Advisory Action has not been mailed, it now being after the three month shortened statutory period from the mailing of the final Office Action, such that the shortened statutory period has still not expired. See, page 3 of the Office Action dated January 11, 2005.

In re Patent Application of MAERTENS, et al. Atty. Ref.: 2551-106			
Serial No.	09/851,138	Group:	1648
Filed:	May 9, 2001	Examiner:	Li
For:	SEQUENCES OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS GENOTYPES AND THEIR USE AS PROPHYLACTIC, THERAPEUTIC AND DIAGNOSTIC AGENTS		

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Patent Application of

MAY 17 2005

MAERTENS, et al.

Atty. Ref.: 2551-106

Serial No. 09/851,138

Group: 1648

Filed: May 9, 2001

Examiner: Li

For: SEQUENCES OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS GENOTYPES
AND THEIR USE AS PROPHYLACTIC, THERAPEUTIC
AND DIAGNOSTIC AGENTS

* * * * *

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May 17, 2005

Via facsimile (7038729306)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

1. **PTO-1449 Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(b)**
[within 3 months of filing or prior to 1st Office Action on the merits] N/C

- 2.(a) **Statement Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c)**
[before Final Office Action or Allowance (requires Rule 97(e)
Statement or Rule 17(p) fee)] N/C

- 2 .(b) **Fee Payment Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c)**
[before Final Office Action or Allowance (requires Rule 97(e)
Statement or Rule 17(p) fee)] \$180.00

3. **Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(d)**
[after Final Office Action or Allowance (requires Rule 97(e)
Statement and Rule 17(p) fee), but before final fee payment] 05/17/2005 09:00:00 00000015 09851138
01 FC:1806 \$180.00 180.00 0P

955528

MAERTENS, et al.
Serial No. 09/851,138

The following are submitted in the above-identified application in compliance with
37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98:

4. A list of documents on Form PTO-1449 together with copies of each identified document and a translation or a concise explanation of each non-English language document (such as a Search Report) is enclosed herewith.

This paper is submitted in accordance with:

5. 37 CFR 1.97(b): [within 3 months of filing or prior to 1st Office Action]
6. 37 CFR 1.97(c): [before Final Office Action or Allowance, whichever is earlier]; and
- a) The required Statement made in item 8 below; or
- b) The \$180.00 fee specified in 37 CFR §1.17(p) for submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is authorized in item 9 below.
7. 37 CFR §1.97(d): [after Final Office Action or Allowance (requires Rule 97(e) Statement and Rule 17(p) fee), but before final fee payment]; and
- a) The fee (\$180.00) required by 37 CFR §1.17(p) is submitted herewith as attached Credit Card Payment Form; and
- b) The required Statement is stated in item 8 below.
8. Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)
- a) The undersigned attorney of record hereby certifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from the Japanese Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application on April 12, 2005, i.e., not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (each item contained in this IDS was the first citation of that item by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application which occurred no more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS); or
- b) No item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this Statement, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information

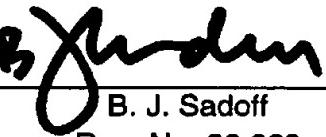
MAERTENS, et al.
Serial No. 09/851,138

Disclosure Statement.

9. Please charge all deficiency fees associated with the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement and any other fees applicable to this application to Deposit Account No. 14-1140. An original and one (1) copy of this document are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:


B. J. Sadoff

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Sheet 1 of 1

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
CITATION**

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

SERIAL NO.

2551-106

09/851,138

MAERTENS, et al.

(Use several sheets if necessary)

MERRITTE
FINE RATE

GROUP

May 9, 2001

1648

U.S. PATENT

— 1 —

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent pages, etc.)

Apichartpiyakul et al., Journal of Clinical Microbiology, September 1994, pp 2276-2279, vol. 32, No. 9

Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 809; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application.

Form PTO-FB-A820 (Also PTO-1449)